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ELECTIONS, NOMINATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS

Note verbale dated 14 October 1997 from the Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose a letter dated 10 October 1997 from His Excellency Dr. Leonardo Santos Simão, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique, to His Excellency Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

* E/1998/2.

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Annex

LETTER DATED 10 OCTOBER 1997 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Mozambique has devoted special attention to refugee problems, even before adhering to the international legal instruments concerned.

In this regard, we have provided generous hospitality to refugees from Zimbabwe, South Africa and other countries of the world.

We also accumulated significant experience during the period in which Mozambican citizens were seeking refuge in neighbouring countries.

On 22 October 1983, the Republic of Mozambique acceded to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951 and, on 25 August 1988, ratified the Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa of 10 September 1969 of the Organization of African Unity and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees on 31 January 1967.

In order to enable the correct implementation of these instruments and the principles of international solidarity and protection of human rights enshrined in the Constitution and other relevant legislation, a national law which defines the legal régime concerning the status of refugees was approved on 31 December 1991.

After examining the statutes, acts and other legal instruments of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees following eight years of experience as an observer, my country has decided to present its candidature as a full member of the Executive Committee.

(Signed) Dr. Leonardo SANTOS SIMÃO
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation